7th November 2002

Product Marketing Announcement

*   **OMNIS Studio v3.3**
*   **OMNIS Studio v4.0**

OMNIS STUDIO VERSION 3.3
The DLA Group and Raining Data are pleased to announce the anticipated new features for the next release of OMNIS Studio, version 3.3.

Mac OS X Byte Range Locking Issue
Studio 3.3 will contain fixes for this issue on all platforms, thereby allowing mixed hardware clients to connect simultaneously to a data file on a Mac OS X Server.

Old Style (V2) DAM on the Mac OS X Platform
We will provide a (V2) DAM to give those customers who have existing applications they wish to deploy on the Mac OS X platform time to convert to the new style (V3) DAMs. All direct connections to proprietary databases are via the new DAMs. Raining Data will support this DAM for a limited time only.

New Style Sybase DAM on the Mac OS X Platform
The Sybase DAM will provide direct support for accessing Sybase databases from the OS X platform.

$FETCHINTO Method
This method facilitates the conversion of the Fetch next row command to the new DAMs. It fetches a single row from the result set into its parameters. It will be available on all platforms.

A Small Number of Fixes to Customer Reported Problems
These include:

*   Item references lost when using client side debugging.
*   Problem in client side debugging using subforms.
*   Problems calling submethods in nested subforms.
*   Blowfish encryption - to strip trailing nulls after decryption.
*   Drag & drop fails on a window with $clickbehind is open (Mac OS X only).

OMNIS STUDIO VERSION 4.0

The DLA Group and Raining Data are pleased to announce the anticipated new features for the next Major Release in development for OMNIS Studio, version 4.0. At this time, it is not determined which of these features will be in version 4.0, and which may be provided in a later version.

IDE Changes - New Browser
In the first major change to the IDE since Studio 1.0, Studio 4.0 will contain a new all-purpose browser that incorporates the class browser, the SQL browser, the data file browser and the VCS. It will display a tree list in the left hand pane, and objects in various views in the right hand pane.

Reports - Section Inheritance
Until now, report inheritance had been limited to inheriting methods and report properties only. This enhancement will make it possible to inherit complete report sections and their objects and sort fields from a super class, providing a way to remove duplication when an OMNIS application requires a number of reports with some commonality, such as common report or page headers with company logos and details.

Reports - Enhancements
Report design will be enhanced to be more intuitive and reduce effort. Enhancements include:

* Section height
* Section calculation
* Section positioning
* Custom sections
* Hiding sections in design mode
* Page setup enhancements
* Borders and shading
* Watermark
* Vertical extending
* DPI for picture objects

Oracle DAM for Mac OS X
A new style (V3) direct DAM for Oracle connectivity.

JDBC DAM
A new (V3) DAM will be available on all platforms, except Mac OS 9. No V2 DAM will be supplied.

Java Support
Non-visual Java objects will be supported on all platforms, except Mac OS 9. These will complement the current Java Beans support, which remains Win 32 only.

Studio Server Applet
An object which acts as a client of the OMNIS Web Client server. It communicates using the ultra-thin (HTML form-based) approach. Both COM and Java versions will be available. It will provide a way to implement Windows CE clients to access the OMNIS server. The developer can use the object from their Windows CE environment.

OS X changes
Additional enhancements and improvements to the OS X platform include:

* Support for sheets and drawers.
* Changes to the IDE to get closer to OS X look and feel.
* Painting performance improvements.
* Better management of the multiple ODBC vendor issues.

Web Client
The ability to open Web client forms in the fat client will be supported to provide a way to build one window/form and deploy it in thick and thin environments.

Object References
We will provide a new data type, the object reference that provides non-persistent objects that the developer allocates and frees via notation to address some practical issues with Objects:

* OMNIS' frequent copying of certain instances.
* Problems with Objects in Lists.
* OMNIS never calls their destructor.

VCS Support for new DAMs
The VCS will default to use the new style (V3) DAMs. The current support for the old style (V2) DAMs will be available initially, but will be removed.

Customer Issues and Requests Reported to Support
Details are to be determined.

We will continue to provide more information as it becomes available. Please contact The DLA Group by phone at +61 2 9555 4777, or via e-mail at **sales@dlagroup.com.au** should you need further assistance.

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